

## CLAIMS

1. A method of manufacturing a plant finished product, comprising the step of processing a plant or a processed  
5 material thereof with high-temperature and high-pressure liquid, gas, or fluid under conditions where an oxygen concentration is 0 to 1  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ .

2. The method of manufacturing a plant finished product  
10 according to claim 1, wherein the plant or the processed material thereof is processed for 1 to 3,600 seconds with liquid, gas, or fluid having a temperature of 140 to 500°C and a pressure of 0.1 to 100 MPa, under conditions where an oxygen concentration is 0 to 1  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ .

15 3. The method of manufacturing a plant finished product according to claim 1, wherein the plant or the processed material thereof is processed for 10 to 1,200 seconds with liquid, gas, or fluid having a temperature of 160 to 250°C and  
20 a pressure of 0.5 to 4.5 MPa, under conditions where an oxygen concentration is 0 to 1  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ .

4. The method of manufacturing a plant finished product according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the liquid, gas,  
25 or fluid is derived from deaerated liquid.

5. The method of manufacturing a plant finished product according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein gas having an oxygen concentration of 0 to 1  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  is used to purge a processing

container before processing.

6. The method of manufacturing a plant finished product according to claim 5, wherein the gas having an oxygen  
5 concentration of 0 to 1  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  is an inert gas, carbon dioxide, or deoxidized gas.

7. The method of manufacturing a plant finished product according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the plant or the  
10 processed material thereof is a plant containing lignin or a processed material thereof.

8. The method of manufacturing a plant finished product according to claim 7, wherein the lignin-containing plant or  
15 the processed material thereof is at least one selected from grains, trees, teas, processed materials thereof, and a by-product of mashing.

9. A plant finished product manufactured by the method  
20 according to any one of claims 1 to 8, which contains 0.15 mg/100g or more of vanillin.

10. The plant finished product according to claim 9, which is derived from grains, trees, teas, or processed materials  
25 thereof.

11. The plant finished product according to claim 10, which is derived from malt or malt husk.

12. Food or drink manufactured using the plant finished product according to any one of claims 9 to 11 as a raw material.

13. The food or drink according to claim 12, which is drink  
5 selected from liquors and soft drinks, or foods selected from confectionery and rice foods.

14. Food or drink manufactured using the plant finished product according to any one of claims 9 to 11 as a raw material.

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15. The food or drink according to claim 14, which is liquor.

16. The food or drink according to claim 12, wherein the  
15 plant finished product according to any one of claims 9 to 11 is used as a raw material in an amount of more than 0 % but 100 % or less of all the raw materials used other than water.

17. The food or drink according to claim 16, wherein the  
20 usage ratio of the plant finished product according to any one of claims 9 to 11 all the raw materials used other than water is 0.1 to 50 % by weight relative to all the raw materials used other than water.

18. The food or drink according to claim 16, wherein the  
25 usage ratio of the plant finished product according to any one of claims 9 to 11 is 0.5 to 30 % by weight relative to all the raw materials used other than water.

19. The food or drink according to any one of claims 12 to 18, which contains vanillin 0.005 µg/mL or more of vanillin.

20. Beer manufactured using the plant finished product  
5 according to any one of claims 9 to 11 as at least one of raw materials.

21. A method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin, comprising the step of processing a plant containing  
10 lignin or a processed material thereof with high-temperature and high-pressure liquid, gas, or fluid to increase the amount of vanillin contained therein.

22. The method of manufacturing a composition containing  
15 vanillin according to claim 21, wherein the temperature of the liquid, gas, or fluid is 140°C to 500°C and the pressure of the liquid, gas, or fluid is 0.1 to 100 MPa.

23. The method of manufacturing a composition containing  
20 vanillin according to claim 21 or 22, wherein the high-temperature and high-pressure processing is carried out for 1 to 3,600 seconds.

24. The method of manufacturing a composition containing  
25 vanillin according to any one of claims 21 to 23, wherein the composition containing vanillin is a raw material of food and drink.

25. The method of manufacturing a composition containing

vanillin according to any one of claims 21 to 24, wherein the composition containing vanillin is a raw material of liquors or tea drinks.

5           26. The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to any one of claims 21 to 25, wherein the plant containing lignin or the processed material thereof is derived from grain.

10           27. The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to claim 26, wherein the grain is malt.

          28. The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to any one of claims 21 to 27, wherein the  
15 vanillin content of the composition containing vanillin is three times or more compared to that of the plant containing lignin or the processed material thereof before high-temperature and high-pressure processing.

20           29. The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to any one of claims 21 to 28, comprising a step of exposing a product obtained through high-temperature and high-pressure processing to a low pressure from a high pressure to transpire moisture and puff out the product.

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          30. The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to any one of claims 21 to 29, wherein an extruder is used.

31. The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to claim 29 or 30, wherein the composition containing vanillin is puffed out into a stick-like shape, a cylindrical column shape, a polygonal prism shape, a spherical shape, or a polyhedron shape.

32. The method of manufacturing a composition containing vanillin according to any one of claims 21 to 31, wherein the plant, the processed material thereof, or the raw material containing the plant and/or the processed material thereof is processed under conditions where an oxygen concentration is 0 to 1  $\mu\text{g/mL}$ .

33. A composition containing vanillin, which is manufactured by the method according to any one of claims 21 to 32.

34. A composition containing malt, which is manufactured by the method according to any one of claims 21 to 32.

35. Food or drink, which is manufactured using, as a raw material, the composition containing vanillin manufactured by the method according to any one of claims 21 to 32.

36. The food or drink according to claim 35, which is any one of beer, happoushu, whiskey, shochu (Japanese white liquor), and fruit wine.

37. The food or drink according to claim 35, which

contains 0.005 µg/mL or more of vanillin.

38. The food or drink according to claim 37, which is any  
one of beer, happoushu, whiskey, shochu (Japanese white liquor),  
5 and fruit wine.